

vote, you all suggest that we are not going to deal with the Medicare problem. The President himself has admitted that Medicare goes bankrupt in 7 years. Yet your party decides to refuse to address the issue.

Which is more important? Squabbling about these votes or getting to the business of the people and addressing issues like Medicare?

Mr. Speaker, I am tired of the partisan bickering. I seldom take part in these partisan debates; I prefer to deal with issues, issues like Medicare. Let us get on with the people's business.

WE SHOULD ALL LIVE BY THE SAME RULES

(Ms. FURSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I have a history. I have lived in countries that were not democracies. I want to say something about democracy. In a democracy trust is the major component. In a democracy, it is not the military who makes the rules; we make the rules. We, the people, make the rules, and we trust we will all live by them.

The Republican leadership said there will be 17-minute votes. Yet today we have a 30-minute vote. So who can we trust?

That is why, they say, they denied those two Members coming down from here into the well to vote. I was standing right here, Mr. Speaker. I pointed to those Members. I said, Mr. Speaker, there are Members. It is on the videotape.

Mr. Speaker, if we lost the trust in this institution, we lose what is best about a democracy. We all make the rules. We all live by the same rules.

METHINKS THOU DOTTH PROTEST TOO MUCH

(Mr. EMERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I have actually sat here this morning and listened to all of the righteous indignation being expressed. There was a perceived wrong in the House, and the majority leader, in an act of magnanimity that I have never witnessed in my 15 years here, and, believe me, when we were in the minority, there were many perceived and real acts perpetrated that were not only perceived, they were real acts of wrongdoing, procedurally. This House was never offered the means to address the perception of wrong, in those days. But now the offer has been made, and it was unanimously agreed to.

I think with what is going on here this morning, there is—I would have to refer a little bit to Shakespeare here: Methinks thou doth protest too much. For the lack of an agenda of substance, you want to quibble about a procedural

issue that is, in fact, being addressed and addressed in a very reasonable, up front and correct manner.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE DENIED REPRESENTATION

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, a frightening thing happened yesterday. Two votes that would have changed the outcome of House action were denied. In addition to the disenfranchisement of two Members, 1 million American people were also denied representation on that vote. What does this kind of capriciousness do to our democracy? What was so important that the business of the House had to be shut down?

Was it the "Salute to Newt" that took place in New York last night? What does this say about the integrity of the vote under Republican rule?

Republicans want to deny potential voters with the repeal of motor-voter. Republicans want to deny real voters by invalidating election results in California and North Carolina. And how we see that they are willing to even deny elected Members the right to vote on the floor of the House if it does not fit in with their outcome.

Mr. Speaker, this bodes ill for the people of America. This is going too far. They are extremists, and they cannot be trusted.

U.S. COAST GUARD COMMENDED FOR LEADING FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS AND VIOLENT DRUG CARTELS

(Mr. ZELIFF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ZELIFF. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Coast Guard is leading the charge against a force that is now our No. 1 national security threat—illegal drugs and violent drug cartels.

Last week, as chairman of the National Security, International Affairs and Criminal Justice Subcommittee, I led a congressional delegation to the front lines in the drug war. We went to the 7th Coast Guard District. What we saw was both impressive and disturbing.

Impressive, because we saw brave men and women in the air and on the sea, putting their lives at risk, in the drug transit zone, hunting narcotraffickers. They are out there protecting our kids and our grandchildren. And they need our help.

Disturbing, because our Nation has badly underestimated the threat posed by drugs and the drug cartels. The interdiction effort needs our support. Congress and President Clinton have to lead.

In the past 2 years, drug use has skyrocketed. But the priority on drug interdiction has fallen. We flew in Falcon jets. But 4 of the region's 10 Fal-

cons have been retired. We flew in HH-60 helicopters. But the pilots have lost radars, aerostats, and their only C-130 AWAC. Resources are at rock bottom, when they should be at the top.

We saw 5,000 pounds of drugs interdicted by the brave souls on the Coast Guard Cutter *Mellon*. But the raw truth is: The drug cartels are killing us as surely as any foreign enemy. It has got to stop.

From the frontlines, I say to my colleagues and I say to President Clinton, let us get drugs at the top of the national agenda.

To the Coast Guard I say, thank you. You are doing important and dangerous work, and we appreciate it.

CORPORATE FAT CATS

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, let us put a little focus on what this article points out. The reason we adjourned the House early on Wednesday afternoon, what every other American thinks is a regular workday, we adjourned early afternoon so people could run to corporate jets owned by tobacco companies and insurance companies, so they could traipse off and go to New York City, where the New York fat cats were waiting to stuff their coffers with money. If they kept those fat cats waiting, they might not have stuffed so much in the pocket.

Mr. Speaker, I am one of the people who, after the first 100 days, went to this dome, and some were angry for holding up a sold sign, but let me tell the Members, every day it appears to me we are selling this place out. I do not want this to become a coin-operated legislative machine.

Yes, have fundraisers, but have them at night, have them on weekends. Do not have them on Wednesday afternoon with corporate jets escorting Members back and forth, so they do not upset the fat cats, so they will give them lots of money. That is why the American people are really concerned about this sacred trust we have called democracy. It is not totally dead yet, but I will tell the Members, it is in danger, as of today.

GAMES IN THE HOUSE

(Mr. PAXON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAXON. Mr. Speaker, there is sanctimony dripping from the ceiling. I want to set the record straight. I see my colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] standing here. I would remind the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER], who just stood and talked about scheduling events on weekends and at times the House is not in session, that the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO],

chairman of the DCCC, used to come to me and say "We are going to have an event. We would like to make certain that votes are not called during that time." We always obliged. I think there was always comity between the two sides of the aisle.

We held an event, that side holds events. Both sides do it. This vote had nothing to do with the scheduling of our event. It had everything to do, though, with games being played here in the House that had nothing to do with the NRCC's event last night. However, we certainly will remember that advice in the future, when it comes to scheduling events, and certainly keep an eye on that side's, also.

RECOGNITION OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION'S RESOLUTION, JUNE 22, 1995

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to stand here today to recognize the bold and courageous step the Southern Baptist Convention took during its annual convention. As many of you know, its members passed a resolution acknowledging and asking forgiveness for past acts of racism.

The Southern Baptist Convention was created in 1845 when some members split from the American Baptist Convention over the question of whether slaveowners could be missionaries.

In 1989, its members moved toward this historic resolution when they declared racism a sin.

This resolution commits its members to eradicating racism in all its forms from Southern Baptist life and ministry. I pray, Mr. Speaker, that others would follow the example of the Southern Baptist Convention so that our great Nation can be all that it can be, utilizing the full potential of all its citizens regardless of race.

A LITTLE HYPOCRISY IN COMPLAINTS

(Mr. LATHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I have been listening to this debate up in the office. I just happened to see Roll Call this morning. It concerned me that maybe we have a little bit of hypocrisy going on today.

There is an article here entitled "Party Weekend."

The Democrats are holding a retreat for big donors at the notorious Greenbrier resort in White Sulphur Springs this weekend. The price of admission is \$10,000 for individuals, \$15,000 for PAC's. There will be some time for discussion, but most of Saturday is free time for golf, tennis, swimming, horseback riding, and visiting the spa. The Greenbrier retreat is one of six events the Democrats are holding for big donors this year.

Mr. Speaker, let us get some reality here. All this rhetoric is quite disingenuous.

AMERICA IS NOT YET A COLOR-BLIND SOCIETY

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, let me be the first today to welcome all of our colleagues to the new colorblind society. Mr. Speaker, the Speaker himself has said just as late as last week that we were not there yet, but we are. Let us just put down all the weapons we used to get here to the promised land of equality and cooperation.

Mr. Speaker, what are the signs that we are here in this land of milk and honey? The Supreme Court last week in the Adarand decision told us, and today in the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, we will put yet another nail in the coffin of inequality in fair housing and lending.

News flash, we are not there yet. By taking one of the best weapons we have away from the Attorney General to use testers, qualified minority and nonminority applicants who root out bigotry and discrimination in housing, we have taken a bad detour back to the past.

Shame on those who falsely welcome us to this color-blind America. We are not there yet, Mr. Speaker. Only last week U.S.A. Today reported that there is still discrimination in housing in this land. There is still discrimination in fair lending practices. Mr. Speaker, let us move toward a color-blind society, but we are not there yet.

HOW REPUBLICANS MAKE LAW: LET LOBBYISTS DO IT

(Mr. SKAGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans promised some sweeping changes in how Congress works. In one way, they have certainly delivered.

The Democratic Study Group is today releasing a special report that describes just how this Republican Congress has turned over the reins of congressional power to special interest lobbyists.

Lobbyists have been brought in from the corridors of the Capitol and given a seat of power, where they are performing the functions that are the legal and moral responsibility of Members and staff. These paid agents of private interests are dictating the wording of legislation, conducting official staff briefings advising committee counsel during bill markups, drafting official committee reports, and even sitting on the dais during hearings.

Mr. Speaker, it is one thing for lobbyists to give advice and suggest bill language. It is quite another for these

agents of private interests, interests with a financial stake in the outcome, to perform the core responsibilities of congressional staff and Members.

Mr. Speaker, this is the business of legislating. It is the public's business. It is to be conducted only by those who are accountable to the public.

COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged motion and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Pursuant to clause 2i of rule 11 Mr. ARMEY moves that all committees and subcommittees of the House be permitted to sit for the remainder of the week while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I will not take my whole hour.

Mr. Speaker, let me just say, this is a routine matter. It is a fairly normal thing we have been doing here in order to enable our committees to work while the House proceeds with business. Of course, we do this in all due consideration to all our Members, but also, of course, in due consideration of the fact that the people's work must be done.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, with the exception that I will yield 15 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DOGGETT] for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me, and would like to be heard in opposition to this motion.

Normally, Mr. Speaker, it would be my feeling that this House should proceed in all due speed to attend to matters, certainly on the Committee on Science on which I serve. However, yesterday we had an incredible display of arrogance in that committee. It is not the first time that it has happened, unfortunately.

That is that after the bell had rung for Members of the Committee on Science to come to the floor of this house and cast their vote on behalf of the over half a million people that each of those Members represent, after that bell had rung, the chairman of the committee attempted to force the committee to vote in committee at the same time, several blocks away from where they were being asked to vote on the floor of this House.

The effect of that action is to deny that half a million Americans the opportunity to cast their vote either in the committee or on the floor, since even the Committee on Science, as advanced as its outlook might be, has not